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~~Replace the paragraphs added to the specification in the Amendment of March 30, 2006, for placement~~ add after amended paragraph 0051 ~~with~~ the following new paragraphs [0051.1] and [0051.2]:

[0051.1] In addition, the airfoils comprising the blades of the stator (or counter-rotating impeller) can be varied by changing geometric properties other than turning angle. For example, the blades' airfoil configuration (such as camber, chord length, etc.), the spacing between adjacent blades, and other properties can be controlled in the manner discussed above to periodically effect the increased lift associated with delayed stall. FIGURE 10A shows an embodiment of the invention in which the chord length of the stator blades is varied cyclically. In FIGURE 10A the stator blades 26a are arranged as described in connection with FIGURE 3, in multiple groups M, each group having K blades. The notation used in FIGURE 10A to identify the stator blades is "$26a_{M,K}$." Groups M = 1 and M = 2 are depicted in FIGURE 10A, but as in FIGURE 3, there can be any number of such groups. Likewise, $K_n = 7$ in FIGURE 10A, but those skilled in the art will appreciate that the number of stator blade groups M, the number K of individual stator blades in each group, and the number of rotor blades, are all chosen to obtain the desired performance under specified operating conditions. Each stator blade 26a has an airfoil cross-section, and the camber line of all of the blades forms the same turning angle θ relative to the fan axis and therefore to the velocity V_∞ of the air entering the fan stage. In accordance with this embodiment of the invention, the chord length of the blades within each group changes in accordance with the principles discussed in connection with the embodiment shown in FIGURE 3. ~~gradually increases from a nominal chord c (depicted here as the chords of blades $26a_{1,2}$ and $26a_{2,2}$). As an~~